GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3969
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2008
REDUCTION IN CALL RATES
Thummar Shri Virjibhai

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private mobile operators have slashed the local, STD and ISD call rates recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the public sector telecom companies will also follow the suit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) & (b) The local, STD and ISD call rates are under forebearance and are constantly modified/reduced by the operators under various tariff packages as per prevailing market forces. Most of the private mobile operators have reduced the call rates recently.

(c) & (d) Based on the needs of the customers, prevailing market conditions and TRAI guidelines, public sector companies Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. review the tariffs from time to time. Recently BSNL has reduced the local call charges under Prepaid General Cellular service from Rs. 1.20 to Rs. 0.90 for calls made to other networks within circle.